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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Tenth meeting
Geneva, 8 and 9 June 2015
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 8 June 2015**

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development:
   (a) Progress achieved and challenges encountered in the third phase of implementation;
   (b) Outcomes of capacity-building activities.

* Re-issued for technical reasons on 5 of March 2015.

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3. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums.

4. Draft future implementation framework for the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development.

5. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2016:

   (a) High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development;

   (b) Draft ministerial statement.

6. "Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development" publication.

7. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2015–2016.

8. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes.

9. Calendar of meetings.

10. Other business.

11. Closure of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Timing: Monday, 8 June, 10–10:15 a.m.

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development is expected to adopt the agenda for its tenth meeting, prepared by the secretariat and the Chair of the Committee in consultation with the Bureau, as set out in the present document.

2. Implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

(a) Progress achieved and challenges encountered in the third phase of implementation

Timing: Monday, 8 June, 10:15 a.m.–1 p.m.

2. The Steering Committee will be informed about the findings of the third mandatory reporting cycle, which was carried out at the end of the third phase of implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (Strategy for ESD) (see ECE/CEP/AC.13/2015/3).

3. The Committee will be invited to consider both the progress made and the remaining challenges as presented in the national implementation reports, and in particular to discuss the implications of the findings from the third reporting round for the implementation of activities beyond implementation phase III.

4. Countries will be invited to complement the secretariat's presentation with interventions on outstanding activities and initiatives implemented since the ninth Steering Committee meeting in 2014.

(b) Outcomes of capacity-building activities

Timing: Monday, 8 June, 3–4 p.m.

5. The secretariat together with the host country will update meeting participants on the outcomes of the Swiss-funded capacity-building workshop, which will be held from 30 March to 1 April 2015 at Issyk Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan, on the promotion of education for sustainable development (ESD) in the country.

3. Recent activities to promote education for sustainable development in other international forums

Timing: Monday, 8 June, 5–6 p.m.

6. The Steering Committee will be updated about recent activities to promote ESD in other international forums, such as the outcomes of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, 10–12 November 2014). It will also be informed about ECE participation at the UNESCO World Conference in a workshop on monitoring and evaluation during the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and in the side event "Driving ESD through regional policy frameworks".

4. Draft future implementation framework for the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 10–11 a.m.

7. Following the request by the Steering Committee at its ninth meeting, the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau has revised the current draft of the future implementation framework for the Strategy in the light of the outcomes of the discussions held and the comments received, and also taking into account the outcomes of the national implementation reporting carried out in 2014 and the World Conference on ESD.

8. The Steering Committee is invited to approve the draft future implementation framework (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2015/4).

5. Preparations for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in 2016

(a) High-level Segment on Education for Sustainable Development

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 11–11:30 a.m.

9. At its twentieth session (Geneva, 28–31 October 2014), the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) welcomed progress in the work under the Strategy for ESD. CEP further supported the request by the Steering Committee to organize a High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries in the framework of the Eighth Environment for Europe (EfE) Ministerial Conference (Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016), with a view to assessing progress during the first 10 years of the Strategy and to consider its future implementation.

10. The Steering Committee will be informed about the relevant CEP decisions, including regarding organizational issues for the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference. On that basis, the Committee will be invited to discuss and agree on the next steps for

preparing the High-level Segment on ESD at the 2016 Ministerial Conference, including the format and content of the Segment (Information paper No. 1).

(b) Draft ministerial statement

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

11. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the format and content of the draft ministerial statement for the High-level Segment on ESD (Information paper No. 2).

6. "Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development" publication

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 12–1 p.m.

12. The secretariat will provide a progress report on the preparation of an official publication forecasted for 2015 on the achievements of 10 years of implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD. The Bureau agreed that the publication should be ready for the 2016 Steering Committee meeting and should focus on the outcomes of the progress reports from the three implementation phases, as well as the case studies developed based on the national implementation reports. The national reports were reviewed to identify relevant good practices for the priority action areas, and the Bureau has already approved a list of countries that could serve as interesting case studies through electronic consultation.

13. The Steering Committee will be invited to approve the selection of countries and themes and to discuss the possible format and contents of the publication "Ten years of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development" (Information paper No. 3).

7. Status of the trust fund and resource requirements for 2015–2016

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 3–3:45 p.m.

14. The secretariat will inform the Steering Committee about contributions received since the Committee's last meeting. Since the funding situation of the Strategy for ESD is very tight, and the regional activities under the Strategy are funded exclusively through contributions by member States to the trust fund, advance indications of pledges by States are vital.

8. Strengthening synergies with other organizations and processes

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

15. Delegations, and in particular stakeholders such as international and non-governmental organizations, Regional Environmental Centres and research institutions, may wish to inform the Steering Committee of activities related to the Strategy's implementation currently being carried out or planned at the national and international levels.

9. Calendar of meetings

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 4:45–4:55 p.m.

16. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss the format and the timing of the eleventh Steering Committee meeting, to be held on 18 and 19 February 2016.

10. Other business

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 4:55–5:15 p.m.

17. The secretariat will provide information on the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality for the Committee's consideration.

18. The Steering Committee will be invited to discuss any other business that might be brought to its attention. Delegations wishing to propose items are invited to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

11. Closure of the meeting

Timing: Tuesday, 9 June, 5:15–5:30 p.m.

19. Following some concluding remarks, the Chair will officially close the tenth meeting.